



MI-CW4110

Michigan Crop Weather

October 12, 2010

Unseasonably Warm & Dry

Seven days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending October 10, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation was minimal throughout the state except in Coldwater where they received 0.07 inches. Temperatures in the Upper Peninsula averaged 6 degree above normal, while temperatures in the Lower Peninsula ranged from 2 to 5 degrees above normal. A frost was reported early in the week. Temperatures rebounded to an unusually warm week throughout Michigan. Harvest of crops continued with fall groundwork nearing completion. Growers reported a very productive week and are ahead of schedule.

Field Crops

Farmers took advantage of favorable weather conditions to make significant progress on field crops. Extensive harvest continued due to sunny, warm, and dry weather conditions. Field reporters used words such as 'ideal', 'productive', and 'favorable' to describe harvest conditions. **Corn** for grain harvest continued well ahead of normal; some were finished with harvest altogether. Moisture ranges were reported in the mid to upper teens depending on the location of the field. **Soybeans** suffered from a dry August in the mid section and had smaller pods at harvest. Moisture was consistently reported around 10%. **Wheat** fields were still being planted; several reporters indicated a need of rain to germinate the crop. **Sugarbeets** were nearly one-fourth harvested. The crop has been on a 'harvest as needed' basis one day a week until piling begins later this month. Some acres of **alfalfa** were still being cut. While a few farmers worked on third cuttings, one reporter indicated having done a fifth cutting.

Soil moisture for week ending 10/10/10

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	9	31	59	1
Subsoil	8	38	52	2

Crop progress for week ending 10/10/10

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, third cutting	92	91	90	94
All hay, fourth cutting	59	59	45	50
Apples, harvested	86	77	48	65
Corn, mature	97	96	58	84
Corn, harvested	45	30	3	15
Dry beans, harvested	95	89	66	80
Potatoes, harvested	72	47	60	64
Soybeans, dropping leaves	97	96	91	95
Soybeans, harvested	66	35	6	34
Sugarbeets, harvested	33	28	14	14
Winter wheat, planted	73	39	34	52
Winter wheat, emerged	25	0	18	20

Fruit

Cortland, Empire, Jonathan, Idared, Northern Spy, and Red and Golden Delicious **apples** continued to be harvested. Fuji harvest has begun in the southeast. Harvest of Idared has been completed in many blocks in the northwest. Late varieties of wine **grapes** continued to be harvested in the southwest. Fall **raspberries** continued to be harvested.

Vegetables

Last week's frost brought production of warm season crops to an end; however warm temperatures allowed growers to continue to harvest other crops. Growers continued to remove stakes, black plastic and drip tape in preparation for, and planting of, fall cover crops. Crops harvested included: **pumpkins, gourds, hard squash, carrots, winter squash, potatoes, peppers, cool season crops** and **tomatoes** for fresh and processing. Irrigation of carrot fields occurred in Oceana County to help facilitate harvest. Growers took advantage of warmer temperatures for direct sales of pumpkins and other vegetables in the southwest. Quality of pumpkins and winter squash, in Oceana County, should not be affected as a result of frost.

Crop condition for week ending 10/10/10

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	1	4	30	51	14
Corn	1	4	20	48	27
Pasture	3	18	31	38	10
Soybeans	2	5	23	49	21

Percent of fall seasons (1971-2000) in which first freeze occurred on or before the date (mo/day) given in the table

Station	Earliest	90%	50%	10%	Latest
Alma	9/20	10/18	10/07	9/24	11/01
Alpena	8/29	10/08	9/24	9/15	10/10
Bad Axe	9/17	10/31	10/11	09/28	11/07
Caro	8/29	10/08	9/24	9/08	10/08
Coldwater	9/20	10/18	10/06	9/23	10/22
Eau Claire	10/02	11/05	10/20	10/08	11/10
Grand Rapids	9/23	10/19	10/09	9/25	11/01
Hesperia	9/04	10/12	9/24	9/07	10/19
Lansing	9/13	10/14	10/06	9/22	10/18
Lapeer	8/15	10/21	10/04	8/30	11/01
Marquette	8/31	10/03	9/22	9/07	10/14
Monroe	10/02	11/04	10/19	10/09	12/09
Saginaw	9/22	10/30	10/12	9/25	11/06
S.S. Marie	8/29	10/09	9/25	9/10	10/21
Standish	8/20	10/09	9/24	9/10	11/01
Stephenson	8/28	9/28	9/18	9/04	10/03
Traverse City	8/29	10/19	10/06	9/17	11/01

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 10/10/10 ¹												
Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2010	2009	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	79	32		2,295	1,845		0.00	0.28	4.18	25.12		
Marquette	79	33		2,214	1,701		0.00	0.60	4.92	25.54		
Stephenson	81	28		2,646	2,097		0.00	0.07	3.72	24.30		
Western UP	84	23	6	2,305	1,790	1,963	0.00	0.29	4.68	25.47	20.81	2.57
Cornell	76	32		2,452	1,943		0.00	0.29	3.85	23.01		
Sault St Marie	70	31		2,322	1,726		0.00	0.20	4.54	21.79		
Eastern UP	76	28	5	2,256	1,713	1,733	0.00	0.36	3.99	24.84	19.78	2.57
Beulah	75	33		2,751	2,142		0.00	0.62	3.84	21.26		
Lake City	76	26		2,590	2,029		0.00	0.53	2.41	24.69		
Old Mission	78	30		2,647	2,028		0.00	0.10	3.14	20.85		
Pellston	72	23		2,487	1,905		0.00	0.08	3.61	23.20		
Northwest	78	23	3	2,568	1,977	2,249	0.01	0.24	2.81	20.24	19.02	2.75
Alpena	79	28		2,566	2,022		0.00	0.11	3.23	21.25		
Houghton Lake	76	23		2,720	2,051		0.00	0.11	1.56	19.20		
Rogers City	77	29		2,400	1,977		0.00	0.19	3.93	25.50		
Northeast	79	23	2	2,593	2,010	2,173	0.00	0.19	2.94	22.52	18.81	2.40
Fremont	77	29		2,952	2,333		0.00	0.40	2.33	16.56		
Hart	76	29		2,827	2,195		0.00	0.14	0.58	19.74		
Muskegon	77	34		3,256	2,547		0.00	0.48	2.22	21.48		
West Central	77	26	2	2,952	2,315	2,461	0.01	0.40	1.86	19.61	19.10	2.94
Alma	79	32		3,027	2,388		0.00	0.54	1.44	22.12		
Big Rapids	79	28		2,844	2,205		0.00	0.44	1.54	22.92		
Central	79	28	3	2,930	2,290	2,540	0.00	0.43	1.37	19.48	19.88	2.59
Bad Axe	76	38		2,866	2,245		0.00	0.97	2.80	22.04		
Pigeon	75	33		2,833	2,213		0.00	0.90	2.49	17.33		
Saginaw	78	33		3,159	2,463		0.00	0.62	1.52	17.42		
Standish	78	30		2,787	2,192		0.00	0.77	2.20	23.55		
East Central	78	30	2	2,873	2,276	2,555	0.00	1.08	2.58	20.23	17.67	2.41
Fennville	80	31		3,057	2,412		0.00	0.00	3.10	27.99		
Grand Rapids	80	33		3,363	2,680		0.00	0.37	1.48	24.88		
Holland	84	31		3,336	2,777		0.01	0.64	3.28	35.33		
South Bend, IN	85	30		3,443	2,829		0.00	0.12	0.89	22.25		
Watervliet	83	30		3,252	2,612		0.01	0.21	1.56	22.18		
Southwest	86	27	2	3,236	2,624	2,788	0.01	0.27	1.85	24.44	20.54	2.99
Belding	78	30		2,961	2,349		0.01	0.35	1.61	19.76		
Coldwater	86	31		3,284	2,706		0.07	0.08	0.12	18.21		
Lansing	80	31		3,247	2,533		0.00	0.53	3.62	19.15		
South Central	86	28	3	3,115	2,500	2,737	0.01	0.49	2.37	22.09	19.97	2.41
Detroit	83	43		3,496	2,911		0.00	1.27	3.08	22.82		
Flint	77	34		3,211	2,490		0.00	1.45	2.67	17.74		
Romeo	82	39		3,089	2,492		0.00	2.31	3.53	17.60		
Tipton	86	39		3,163	2,593		0.00	0.65	1.99	24.29		
Toledo, OH	82	39		3,475	2,903		0.00	0.96	1.54	23.38		
Southeast	87	32	3	3,212	2,671	2,736	0.00	1.14	2.22	21.32	18.89	2.33

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.